

Remarks

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action ("Office Action") mailed January 7, 2010. Claims 1-33 are pending. Claims 1-33 stand rejected. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Examiner Interview and Double Patenting Rejections

The Examiner continues to reject Claims 1-33 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,738,814. In a telephone conversation between Brian M. Kearns, attorney for Applicants, and Examiner Pramila Parthasarathy, dated October 6, 2009, Mr. Kearns and Examiner Parthasarathy discussed potential amendments. Examiner Parthasarathy indicated that the potential amendments, included in this response, would overcome all rejections other than the double patenting rejections.

Applicants file herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to United States Patent No. 6,738,814. Accordingly, in light of the current amendments and Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION


Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending Claims.

Applicants believe that no fee is due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

If the Examiner feels that a conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, Luke K. Pedersen stands willing to conduct such a telephone interview at the convenience of the Examiner. Mr. Pedersen may be reached at 214-953-6655.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 4-6-10

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